

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 654

By Williams

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend the Putnam County Sheriff's Office and the Putnam County Emergency Medical Services for meritorious service.

WHEREAS, our nation was conceived by individuals who were willing to sacrifice their personal safety and concerns to ensure our individual and collective freedom, and the Volunteer State is especially proud to be the home of so many valiant men and women who have performed above and beyond the call of duty; and

WHEREAS, thousands of Tennesseans continue this time-honored tradition of volunteerism through service as law enforcement officers and first responders; and

WHEREAS, the members of the Putnam County Sheriff's Office and Putnam County Emergency Medical Services recently displayed exemplary courage and gallantry and deserve proper recognition for heroism in service to their community; and

WHEREAS, on January 10, 2018, off-duty Cookeville Police Master Patrol Officer Justin Long and Firefighter Travis Lee were flagged down by a bystander at the intersection of West Broad Street and Hawkins Crawford Road; and

WHEREAS, these two heroes had come upon a traffic accident and soon assessed that the driver had suffered a cardiac arrest. Thanks to their knowledge and skills fostered by their training, the two men immediately began administering cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR); and

WHEREAS, Putnam County Sheriff's Office Sergeant Jeremy Nash and Putnam County Emergency Services Paramedic Joe Smith soon arrived at the scene and began emergency protocols, which protocols included the use of an automated external defibrillator (AED); and

WHEREAS, Sheriff's Office deputies Gary Davis, Craig Ragsdale, Scott Stockton, and Devon Brown also arrived on the scene to direct traffic. Thanks to their leadership and

patience, traffic was able to continue safely, and additional emergency medical personnel were able to arrive and transport the victim to Cookeville Regional Medical Center, where he remained in stable condition; and

WHEREAS, had it not been for the bravery, ability, and rapid response of these heroic individuals, the situation could have ended quite differently; and

WHEREAS, the AED used on the scene was one of twenty received by the Putnam County Sheriff's Office from the Federal Law Enforcement Support Office 1033 Military Surplus Program, which enables local law enforcement agencies to obtain equipment that they may not otherwise be able to procure due to monetary restraints; and

WHEREAS, all deputies in the Sheriff's Office receive annual CPR and AED training. By having knowledgeable officers and patrol cars assigned an AED unit, the county receives uninterrupted coverage and availability of an AED in the event of medical emergencies; and

WHEREAS, the members of the Putnam County Sheriff's Office and Putnam County Emergency Medical Services are not only a credit to Putnam County, but to the entire State of Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, these law enforcement officers and first responders performed their duties with the utmost skill, dedication, and professionalism; their service can only be categorized as outstanding; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED TENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and commend the Putnam County Sheriff's Office and Putnam County Emergency Medical Services for meritorious service and offer our thanks for a difficult job well done.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.